

**REMARKS**

The present Amendment modifies the claim format, and eliminates the use of multiple dependency.

The examination and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: December 23, 2003

By: Benton S. Duffett Jr.  
Benton S. Duffett, Jr.  
Registration No. 22,030

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

Date: December 23, 2003